



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Members of parliament elected for constituencies in southern Ireland were summoned and a provisional government was set up on January 10, with officers as follows: President, Arthur Griffith, founder of the Sinn Fein movement; Minister of Finance, Michael Collins; Minister of Foreign Affairs, George Gavan Duffy; Minister of Home Affairs, Eamon J. Duggan; Minister of Local Government, William T. Gosgrave; Minister of Economic Affairs, Bryan O. Higgins; Minister of Defense, Richard T. Mulcahy.

Of course, the question now is whether or not Ireland's enemies have been right in saying that she has not the capacity for governing herself. The prospects are not altogether bright. The ancient animosities will not disappear in a day. Lord Carson and his followers see in the whole business nothing but treachery and cowardice. When it appeared that the Dail was to elect Griffith as President, Eamon de Valera and his followers

walked out in protest. From the reports we gather that de Valera is now pursuing obstructionist tactics. Technically, de Valera appears to be correct in his statement that the Dail Eireann is representative of the Republic and of nothing else. But Griffith announces that the Dail Eireann will continue to exist until the Irish Free State is set up. Griffith will proceed on the theory that the Republic of Ireland remains in being until the parliament of the Free State is duly elected by the people. The fact seems to be that the Dail Eireann represents the Republic and that the new President is President of the Dail. The Republic will continue in being until such time as the Free State can operate in its newly elected parliament. Thus bloody revolution gives way to reason—and the war is won around the table at 10 Downing Street. The course of British Empire, headed by Mr. Gladstone of another generation, has reached its inevitable goal.

THE CONFERENCE NEARS ITS END

Since the last issue of the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE* was issued the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments has reached agreement, in the Naval Committee, on the major naval question of capital-ship reduction, has settled nearly all secondary questions, and, as this issue goes to press, appears to be about to meet in plenary session for the submission of the Naval Treaty.

Details of each action will be found in a naval article that follows and that gives the daily progress of the committee handling naval affairs. Suffice it to state here that in order to give Japan the *Mutsu*, her great new battleship, the capital-ship tonnage figures for the United States, Great Britain, and Japan were revised somewhat, with relatively slight increases, but the 5-5-3 ratio was preserved. Under the revised plans the number of ships to be scrapped was increased from 66 to 68, but the ships that remain will have rather more power than under the original Hughes plan. Subsequently France and Italy were given 1.75 each as their capital-ship ratio in relation to the 5-5-3 ratio for the three big naval powers.

It was found impossible to reach an agreement on limitation of submarines, owing to French objections to less than 90,000 tons. It also was impossible to limit auxiliaries because of French objections. But agreements were reached for restatement of the old rules of war affecting submarines and for extension of the rules, as between the five powers, to prevent submarine attacks on merchantmen. Arrangements also were made to limit the size of guns to be carried.

Another outstanding agreement reached in the Naval Committee was that poison gas should not be used in any form, in case of war as between the five naval powers, and that the other nations would be invited to give their assent, and so to make the rule international law. Still another agreement, which was related to the agreement on capital-ship reduction and tonnage, was that the *status quo* should

apply to Pacific fortifications, except those in Japan proper, Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific coast of Canada, and the Pacific coast of the United States, in which was included Hawaii. Difficulty has been had in putting that agreement into form for the treaty.

Nothing was done toward abolishing the use of aircraft in war, although Secretary Hughes stated in the Naval Committee that it was generally recognized that aerial warfare probably will be one of the most formidable forms in the future. The reason was that experts reported that attempts to abolish aeronautics in war would retard greatly development of the science in civil life, and the leaders of the Conference were drawn to the same conclusion. It is expected a commission will be named to formulate rules to govern aerial warfare.

In Far Eastern affairs, the negotiations between the Chinese and Japanese delegations, that had been started when the last issue of the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE* was issued, are still under way. They were broken off once. The Chinese delegation sought the good offices of Mr. Hughes and Mr. Balfour, which had been tendered when the direct negotiations were inaugurated, but the Japanese refused to ask the good offices of the two leaders. The latter, therefore, were unable to act formally, but the understanding has been that they made compromise suggestions unofficially relating to the major issue at stake, control of the railroad in Shantung. Direct negotiations were resumed and both the American and British delegations have stated their belief that one of these compromise proposals will be accepted very shortly.

An account of actions taken in other Eastern matters will be found in the separate article on the proceedings of the Far Eastern Committee. Briefly, agreements have been reached as to post-offices, customs rates, wireless stations, Chinese neutrality, the open-door policy, and other similar interests. A treaty for the protection of China is now being drafted.